

Testimony of
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Before the
Education Committee

March 15, 2023

Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of House Bill 6884. This bill takes important steps toward addressing the educator shortage in Connecticut, showing educators that theirs is a respected profession, and ensuring that our classrooms and schools can provide the best possible education for our students.

These minimal asks are essential to helping our profession to sustain - never mind grow. If we want kids to grow into productive members of society, keeping a strong teaching force is one of the most important commitments we can make. This is just one small step in that direction. As a seasoned teacher, the past few years have taken a dramatic toll on me and my colleagues. Any 'planning' time we have been able to find, is taken by students who need our emotional support, as well as academic. Activities have always been limited due to lack of funding, but these days, all my money goes to providing for my family and can not go to my classroom like it did in the past - it is not right to put this pressure on teachers! We've already given enough of ourselves! This minimal legislation is essential!

Thank you for your time and consideration.

